

## **Man has no righteousness apart from faith. (1:18-3:20)**

### **1. Natural revelation condemns man. (1:18-32)**

#### **a. Summary – God’s wrath responds to man’s suppression of the truth. (1:18)**

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

#### **b. The truth was made evident in man and to man. (1:19-20)**

19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

#### **c. Man’s foolish heart was darkened because he repressed the truth. (1:21-23)**

21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

## **d. Man was abandoned to unrighteousness. (1:24-32)**

### **1. Man's body was dishonored. (1:24-25)**

24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, that their bodies might be dishonored among them. 25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

### **2. Man's passion became unnatural. (1:26-27)**

26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

### **3. Man's life was given over to all unrighteousness. (1:28-32)**

28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; {they are} gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; 32 and, although they know the ordinance of God, that those who

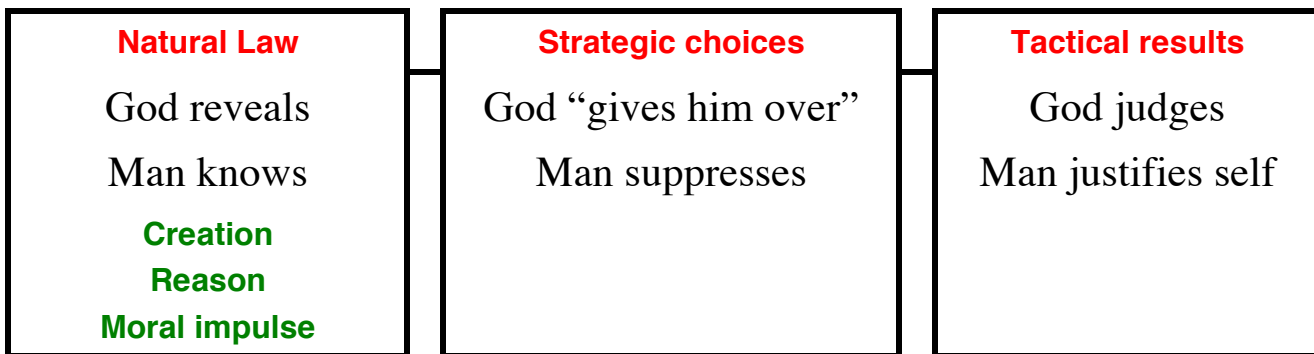
practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

**Rom.3:10-12**

“There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one.”  
(Ps.14:1-3)

**Rom.1:19-2:29**

**The barbarian heathen (1:19-32)**  
**The moralistic heathen (2:1-16)**  
**The religious heathen (2:17-29)**



**All religions share these common elements:**

- **Transcendent authority**
- **Ethical agenda**
- **Radical alienation**

**Rom.5:8-9**

“But God demonstrated His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more than, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.”

**John 3:19-20**

“And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their deeds were evil, for everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.”

## General revelation reveals:

- God's existence - Ps.19:1, Rom.1:19
- God's eternity - Acts 17:24
- God is Creator - Acts 14:15
- God is Sustainer - Acts 14:16, 17:25
- God's universal Lordship - Acts 17:24
- God is self-sufficient - Acts 17:25
- God's transcendence - Acts 17:24
- God's immanence - Acts 17:26-27
- God's moral standard - Rom.2:15
- God should be worshiped - Acts 14:15, 17:23
- God has a sovereign will - Acts 17:26
- God's eternity - Ps.93:2
- God's greatness - Ps.8:3-4
- God's majesty - Ps.29:4
- God's power - Ps.29:4, Rom.1:20
- God's wisdom - Ps.104:24
- God's goodness - Matt.5:45, Acts 14:17
- God's intelligence - Acts 17:29
- God's living existence - Acts 17:28
- God's righteousness - Rom.1:32
- God's living existence - Acts
- God will judge evil - Rom.2:15-16

## GENERAL REVELATION

- available to all creation at all times.

### Cosmos - material world

**Rom.1:19-20** “that which is known about God, is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so the they are without excuse” (Ps.8:1-3, 19:1-3, Isa.40:12-14,26, Acts 14:15-17)

### Conscience - intuitive sense

**Rom.2:14-16** “For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them,”

## **Culture - human history**

**Acts 13:17** “and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”(Acts 17:26-28)

## **Corruption - the curse of death**

**Rom.1:18** “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men”